



The Bullsheet

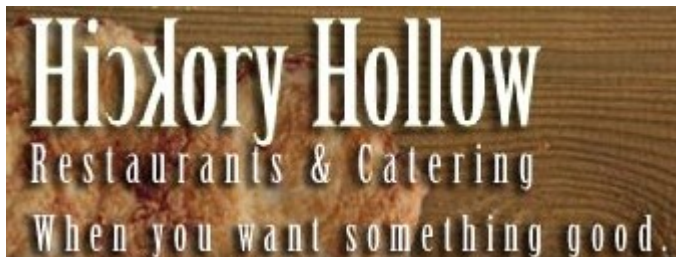
The Official News Bulletin of
The Texas DX Society
An ARRL Affiliated Club

The Texas DX Society, Houston TX K5DX@tdxs.net November 2015

TDXS Dinner Meeting: Special Night!
Wednesday November 11th, 6:30 PM at
the [Hickory Hollow BBQ](#),

8036 Fallbrook Dr, Houston, TX 77064
(just east of the Sam Houston
Racepark, inside Beltway 8 near SH 249.)

Join us for an evening of tall tales, DXing exploits,
and contesting rumors.



Editor's Note by Allen N5XZ

As I write this, the ARRL CW Sweepstakes is over. What started as just making a few QSO's went to be 500 with a clean sweep. I hope I didn't bust any of the important Q's as I would dearly love to finally be able to get one of those coveted Clean Sweep mugs that the ARRL will sell you. Seems every year I think I made a sweep, there is a busted one in there somewhere and I don't make it. Maybe this will be the year.

I decided to stop at 500 QSOs so I could do a bit of work on the vertical. I attached the insulator feet to the radial plate and added some more bolts to it. Also added some lugs to the tower legs go connect the plate and the ground rods. Earlier in the

week, I purchased 200 ft. of Shireen RFC600 (just as good as Times LMR600 at less than half the cost) to go to the tower. Why 600? Well I have about a 300 ft. run to the new antenna, so I want keep the losses to a minimum.

Band conditions are really improving now that we are going into the fall. 10, 12 and 15 meters have been really active, with JA's and EU coming in almost every day now. Signals are getting BIG on 20 and 30. Can't wait to try 80 soon!

Decent DX in my log in October: SU9IG, TX3X, VP2MLJ, VP2MTX, E51MKW, T2GC, VP2MAC, ZD7W, 5W1SA, 9M6XRO,

D4D, TA3/HB9FIH, TR8CA, CN8KD, E51MQT, C91B, V73D, 9M6IVY, TT8AMO, 9K2MU, 3W3MD, and 7W6A. Not a bad haul if you ask me.

This month's meeting is up north at Hickory Hollow, so maybe some of our members up at the top of Houston can make it. I've never been there, but I hear the eatin' is real good.

Oh, and you might want to take Ron Litt's new Technician exam, just to make sure you haven't forgot too much!

Thanks and 73,
73, Allen N5XZ

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The Prez Sez by Bob, W5UQ

TDXS Prez sez for November 2015:

The TDXS regular October meeting at Tracy Gee was a business meeting and nomination of officers.

The meeting was a very good one. Several attended and had a lot of good input, plus great participation.

First of all we discussed Dxpeditons asking for contributions and donations to them. Orville had it all organized with a proposal. It was excellent. After discussing that subject for a time, it was adopted. I will leave the details to Orville in his DX Chairman's article in this BS issue.

Next we discussed making some changes to the TDXS Constitution. It has been difficult for Doug Seyler, WB5TKI, to get this ball rolling. However it is greatly needed. I commend him for his efforts and it looks like it is finally getting done now.

A long discussion occurred and we hashed out a lot. I would like to say, that our group can do a good job of diplomatically presenting as well as compromising where necessary. A new committee was formed, I didn't write down the names. Doug is in charge of a new committee as well. They will continue with discussing and making the changes. In the October meeting, we did get some great input. Also in the September meeting at BOD, after dinner meeting, a good many made some good contributions. So, I will leave the explanations up to Doug to advise later as to where we are now and may be going. Be at the November dinner meeting to hear more.

As far as I am concerned, this project is important for us to grow as we have been gradually disappearing from the meetings and activities. Some from not being able to make it, as usual, however a number of members are SK'd now and then some others have decided to now attend, for whatever their reasons. And that is not the only reason for changes needing to be made. Again, come to the November dinner meeting to hear more. And in December as well.

We did find that having alternating Tracy Gee meetings with dinner meetings at a

restaurant, produced some good results. Some members/attendees prefer the Tracy Gee Center for meeting and some prefer the dinner meetings only. Many go to both. Anyway, we seem to have more attend the dinner meetings than the regular Tracy Gee meetings. At least it seems so to me.

Lastly we nominated officers for next year. Here is the slate:

President = Bob Hardie W5UQ
 VP of Programs = Robie Elms, AJ4F
 VP of Membership = Keith Dutson, NM5g
 Secretary = Doug Seyler, WB5TKI
 Treasurer = Mike Bragassa, K5UO

The others on the BOD are appointed.

2014 officers and volunteers to do the positions:\

Contest Chair = Willis Cooke, K5EWJ.
 And Glen Anderson, WB5TUF has offered to handle Contest Chair as well.

FD Chair = Mike Davidson, N5MT

DX Chair = Orville Burg, K5VWW

Repeater Chair = Glenn Anderson-WB5TUF

Communications Chair = Allen Brier, N5XZ

Webmaster = Has been Steve Smothers, W9DX. For years now. However he has been working at turning over the helm to Scott Potout- K5DD. Scott has been handling things for a while now and is doing great. Sorry to see Steve leave, but that's the way it is.

Outgoing QSL Manager = Scott Patout, K5DD

Please note that erroneously Bob Walwarth has been being listed as being on the BOD. He is directly associated with Card Checking for the ARRL. It is wonderful to have him available for us in our group and he does an excellent job. Thanks again Bob for your dedication.

See you November 11th, a WEDNESDAY at 6:30pm: see below.

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 8036 Fallbrook Dr,

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(just east of the Sam Houston Racepark, inside Beltway 8 near SH 249.

Join us for an evening of tall tales, DXing exploits, and contesting rumors.

A heads up on programming.

John Firey, W5ZG, and one of his many presentations on vintage ham radio equipment will be presented at the December meeting at Tracy Gee. As always, John will have some very interesting pictures and stories. And don't think you've already heard them all. He has enough to go for years yet. J

So put December 10th, 2015 at 7pm on your calendar for that meeting.

Oh yes, one last note. We have reserved Brady's Landing again this year for our TDXS Banquet. It is scheduled for January 25th, 2016 on Saturday night from 6pm to 9pm. I will have more information about the menu and all later.

73 for now,

Bob Hardie W5UQ

TDXS Prez

TDXS September 2015 Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler WB5TKI

TDXS September 2015 Meeting Minutes

Date: October 8, 2015

Location: Tracy Gee Community Center, Houston, TX

Attendance: TDXS Members: Doug WB5TKI, Curt WG5H, Keith NM5G, Mike K5UO, Paul W5PF, Orville K5VWW, Steve W9DX, Lance WD5X, Cookie K5EWJ, Bob W5UQ, Allen N5XZ, Dale KG5U, Scott K5DD, Robie AJ4F, Glenn WB5TUF

Guests: Ken Mitchell KD2KW, Orin Snook KB5F

The October meeting consisted of club business items only, with no program. Topics discussed were:

Web Master Steve W9DX will hand the reigns over to Scott K5DD at the end of December.

Treasurer Mike K5UO reported that the club treasury contained \$16,745, which includes about \$2000 from the Topp DX Fund.

Repeater Chairman Glenn WB5TUF reported that all repeaters and cluste3rs are working FB.

DX Chairman Orville K5VWW reported that there are currently a lot of DXpeditions in the Caribbean.

Communications Chairman Allen N5XZ reminded everyone to be timely in their Bullsheet submissions. All article submissions are welcome.

Meeting VP Lance WD5X announced that the next meeting will be a dinner get-together at Hickory Hollow Restaurant on Fallbrook in NW Houston. The date is Wednesday Nov. 11 at 6:30. He also mentioned that Cal White WF5W is planning to attend.

Bob and Lance brought up short presentations on ham radio for Cub Scout groups. They had given one recently and it was well received.

President Bob W5UQ announced that the January Banquet will be back at Brady's Landing. Date is TBA.

Orville presented the following proposal for limited TDXS funding of DXpeditions:

“Procedure to obtain TDXS financial backing for DXpeditions:

In accordance with the recommendations of the TDXS Board of Directors, It is proposed the following tenet be followed in order to obtain financial backing for DXpeditions.

The primary purpose of TDXS contributions is to support the activity of stations with the primary purpose of providing amateur radio communications from DX entities, as opposed to “a vacation to the Bahamas where sporadic qso’s are provided.” Single person operations from a DX entity shall be favored if the primary purpose of the trip is to operate on amateur frequencies as opposed to recreation.

- *There shall be an annual total allocation of \$1000.00 by TDXS made available for DXpedition support.*
- *In light of the high costs of some current DXpeditions, a maximum TDXS contribution limit of \$250.00 shall be placed to any one Dxpediton.*
- *The exact amount of the contribution to any Dxpediton shall be determined by the Board of Directors.*



TDXS September 2015 Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler WB5TKI

The procedure to obtain financial support shall be as follows:

Any member of TDXS shall be able to request donations for a Dxpediton of their choice.

Solicitation of donations may be made by the representative of a Dxpediton to TDXS.

The donation request shall be made to the DX Chairman which will review the merits of the Dxpediton and present the request to the Board of Directors with their recommendation.

Any member of TDXS shall have the ability to request matching funds for their own personal donation to any Dxpediton. This request shall be placed on a "fast track" and shall receive preferential treatment by the Board of Directors. Should several requests be made for any single Dxpediton, the maximum contribution limit of \$250.00 shall apply.

Doug WB5TKI moved for adoption of the proposal, Lance WD5X seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

There was a lively discussion of the current membership requirements for TDXS, including the 4 meeting requirement. In order to address this topic, a committee was selected to review the Constitution and make recommendations for revision. It consists of Doug WB5TKI, Steve W9DX, Allen N5XZ, Paul W5PF, and Bob W5UQ. Doug will gather comments from the committee members for discussion by the full committee.

TDXS Elected Officer nominations –

President – Bob W5UQ

VP Programs – Robie AJ4F

VP Membership – Keith NM5G

Treasurer – Mike K5UO

Secretary – Doug WB5TKI

Voting will take place at the November meeting.

Submitted November 6, 2015

Doug Seyler WB5TKI

TDXS Secretary



DX Report by Orville Burg K5VWW

October was somewhat better than September with some fall season propagation in control and the sunspot numbers continuing to drop. There were several small DXpeditions which were active and provided some good QSO's for needed countries.

The major Dxpediton for October was TX3X. They sailed from Noumea, New Caledonia and operated from the Chesterfield Islands from October 1st through 12th. They had 12 members and 7 active stations utilizing Elecraft K3's, P3's and KPA500 Amplifiers. This provided a new country for several members.

The North Cook Islands Manihiki Atoll was active from Sept. 29th through Oct. 27th on all bands and modes by E51MQT, E51MBX and E51MKW. The South Cook Islands were also active during the same time period by E51DLD and E51AAR.

Currently active is 3W3MD from the beach at Da Nang, Viet Nam.; 4W1UB from Timor-Leste; C91B from Mozambique; PYØNY from Fernando de Noronha; Otto, 9Q6AL from the Democratic Republic of the Congo; TT8AMO from Chad; 5R8IC from Madagascar; YJØBJ from Vanuatu; and others.

Kenya will be represented by 5Z4HW until Nov. 18th, and Burkina Faso will be by XT2AW until Nov. 27th.

VK9WA from Willis Island will be operated by a 7 operator group and will be concentrating on ATNO qso's. They will be there from November 14th until the 23rd.

Kenneth Opscar, LA7GIA, will be operating from Equatorial Guinea, 3C between Nov. 12th and Nov. 23rd. 3C currently ranks as the 29th most needed entity from North America.

There will be a few goodie stations active during the CQWW CW contest the weekend of November 28th and 29th including such calls as 9XØNH from Rwanda, P3F from Cyprus, PJ2T from Curacao, PJ4A from Bonaire and many more.

This will be a good opportunity for stations needing these for DXCC to pick up qso's from very active stations. Just watch the TDXS DX Cluster for posts of activity.

We will certainly be looking forward to the fall and winter seasons. Activity will be from all over the globe including the Heard Island, Palmyra activations in addition to South Sandwich and South Georgia Dxpediton. Unfortunately the side trip for the Heard Island Dxpediton to Kerguelin will not be possible due to a change in the vessel used for transportation.

TDXS has exercised the Dxpediton sponsorship program to provide funds to needy DXpeditions in the name of TDXS. The first grant was supplied to the South Sandwich / South Georgia Dxpediton in the amount of \$250.00

Good DXing!

Radiosport Items of Note for November—by Ron Litt K5HM

Radiosport Items of Note for October 2015

For a complete list of contests click the link below

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

State QSO Parties – An easy way to try a contest for the first time. If you happen to need these states for WAS, they are a great way to work states to work states you can't easily find on the bands otherwise.

State QSO Parties

Kentucky QSO Party Nov 14-

Mixed Mode Contests

Ukrainian DX Context Nov 7-8

LZ DX Contest Nov 21-22

SSB Contests

JIDX Phone Contest Nov 14-15 All Asian DX Contest, Phone Sept 5-6

WAE DX Contest SSB, Sept 12-13

North American Collegiate ARC SSB Nov- 21-23

ARRL Sweepstakes, SSB Nov 21-23

CW Contests

High Speed CW Club Content November 1st

North American Collegiate ARC Championship, CW Nov 7-9

ARRL Sweepstakes, CW Nov 7-9

CQ WW DX CW Contest Nov 28-29

Digital Contests

DARC 10 Meter Digital Contest Nov 8

WAE DX Contest RTTY Nov 14-15

10-10 Fall Digital Contest Nov 14-15

Selected Special Event Activities

EXTR Hour Special Event , W8BAP, Celebrates the End of Daylight Savings

Veterans Day 11/7 – 11/8 , 11/11 Veterans day Special Event, Various

40th Anniversary of the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald 11/10 W8F

100 Anniversary of QST Magazine WE7GV 11/14

And The Ever Popular . . .

Oklahoma Statehood Special Event 11/14 K5EOK

For details on every Special Event in August, go to

http://www.arrl.org/special_events/search/page:3/Date.start:2015-09-01/Date.end:2015-09-30/model:Event



Where in the World is ... by Ron Litt K5HM

Chesterfield Islands (FK/C, TX3)

CQ Zone 30 IOTA OC-176

The official prefix for this entity is FK/C denoting it is part of New Caledonia, a French territory comprising hundreds of islands in the South Pacific. If you listen carefully you can probably hear the strains of Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Bali Hai* from the musical, South Pacific.

"Ah yes, "Most people live on a lonely island, in the middle of a foggy sea . . ." but I digress.

The Chesterfields are an archipelago of New Caledonia located in the Coral Sea, 340 miles northwest of the main island of New Caledonia.

You might remember the Coral Sea as the place, where the US Navy stopped the Japanese advance on Australia in WW II. The battle is unique as the first naval battle where opposing ships never came in sight of each other.

Sometimes referred to as the Chesterfield Reefs, they are the most important of a number of uninhabited coral sand cays. Some are awash and liable to shift with the wind while others are stabilized by the growth of grass, creepers and low trees. The Chesterfield Reefs are now part of the territory of New Caledonia.

The Perseverance DX Group assembled a team of 12 operators, 7 Elecraft K-Line stations and two Expert Linears 1.3K FA's. The equipment Along with all the usual stuff -

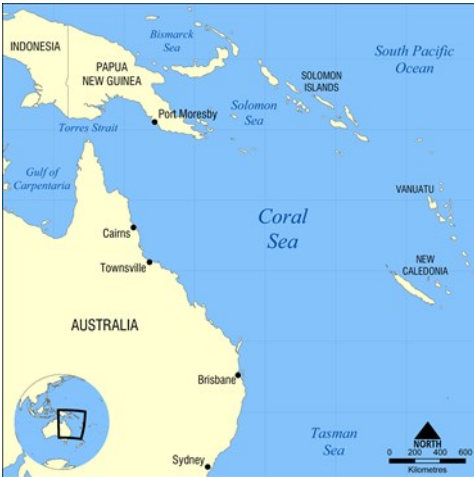
Keyers, computers, antennas, food, medical supplies, generators and gasoline was loaded aboard the Expedition vessel, Evohe. And the team set out for a



brisk ocean cruise to an uninhabited island.

The team arrived on the island on 23 Sept and went QRT on 11 Oct about 1700 UTC.

The last DXpedition to Chesterfield was TX3A in 2009. According to Clublog's list of most wanted DX entities, Chesterfield ranks 21st on the list. Congratulations to all whose signal made the trip.



Reporting from the Dark Side,
Ron, K5HM



If I could write the Technician Exam.... By Ron Litt, K5HM

“That @#\$\$%@# test is too easy!!” “Any idiot can get a Tech license today without even studying”, or so goes the conventional wisdom.

Question 1: What is Ohm’s Law?

A Buddhist Chant

The name of a 15th Century law governing marriage

Describes the relationship between current and electrical potential in a conductor

Is a derivative of Maxwell’s Equation

Question 2. A Colpitts Oscillator is:

The opposite of a Hartley Oscillator

Part of a washing machine

The part that causes the motel bed to vibrate

None of the above

Question 3: Before climbing a tower, you should

A, Wear clean underwear, in case you have to be taken to a hospital

B. Carry your medical insurance card.

C, Wear a brightly colored safety vest so your body can be found in the dark

All of the above.

Each month, I will add a few more questions to my new Technician exam. Anyone who wants to submit some questions of their own, will be welcome. Just send them to K5HM@arrl.net



Texas DX Society Board members

President	Bob Hardie, W5UQ	w5uq at att.net
VP Membership	Bob Mennell, WB5IUU	bmennell@consolidated.net
VP Programs	Lance Rumfield, WD5X	ltrumfield at sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Doug Seyler, WB5TKI	djseyler@comcast.net
Treasurer	Mike Bragassa, K5UO	bragassa at consolidated.net
Contest Chairman	Willis "Cookie" Cooke, K5EWJ	wrcooke at yahoo.com
Field Day Chairmen	Mike Davidson, N5MT	n5mt@aol.com
Repeater Chairman	Glenn Anderson, WB5TUF	wb5tuf at earthlink.net
DX Chairman	Orville Burg, K5VWW	Orville@rubyglass.com
Outgoing QSL Manager	Scott Patout,, K5DD	k5dd at arrl.net
Webmaster	Steve Smothers, W9DX	cougar70 at earthlink.net
Bullsheat Editor	Allen Brier, N5XZ	n5xz at arrl.net

TDXS Offical Card Checker

DXCC QSL Card Checker	Bob Walworth, N5ET	rwalworth at charter.net
CQ WAZ Card Checker	Bob Walworth, N5ET	rwalworth at charter.net

How to reach US

On the World Wide Web <http://www.tdxs.net> email address: k5dx@tdxs.net

On 2 Meters: 147.96/36 MHz (100 Hz) On 70cm: 447.00/442.00 MHz (103.5 Hz) DX Cluster—On Packet: Connect to **K5DX** on 145.71 MHz or telnet via IP address 75.148.198.113

TDXS says "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" to these members with birthdays in November

Please notify the Editor if I have missed anyone

Keith Huge - KA5F
 Joe Staples - W5ASP
 Charles Brues - N5AM
 Robert McWhorter - K5PFE
 Chuck Dietz - W5PR
 John Davis - KN5T
 Bill Eckenrode - W5SG
 Bob Chmielewski - N5PJI

Bruce Meier - N1LN
 Ed Gerber - W5GCX
 Chuck Hornburg - K5IX
 Don Mayhall - N5DM
 Don Daze - N5DD
 Matt Thomas - WX5S
 Willis "Cookie" Cooke - K5EWJ